

## Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 166827

LIMDIS, FOR ROBERT ROSENSTOCK, US LEGAL DIVISION ONLY

FOL RPT SAN JOSE 3222 ACTION SECSTATE 2 JUL QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L SAN JOSE 3222

LIMDIS

E.O. 11552: XGDS-1

TAGS: PFOR, PGOV, CS

SUBJ: VESCO CASE: WILKINS' ARREST

1. EMBASSY HAS RECEIVED CONFIDENTIALLY FROM RELIABLE  
NEWSPAPER SOURCE COPIES OF FOLLOWING DOCUMENTS:

A) WILKINS' DECLARATION OF MAY 7, 1976 BEFORE  
COSTA RICAN POLICE OFFICIALS. THIS DECLARATION APPEARS  
TO BE IDENTICAL TO ONE SHOWN TO AMBASSADOR AND DCM BY  
MINISTER CHARPENTIER ON MAY 20 (SAN JOSE 2547).

B) "TRANSLATION" INTO ENGLISH OF UNDATED REPORT  
SUPPOSEDLY SENT BY WILKINS TO U.S. ATTORNEY'S OFFICE  
IN NEW YORK.

2. WHY REPORT SHOULD BE "TRANSLATION" RATHER THAN ORIGINAL  
TEXT IS UNKNOWN. IN ANY CASE, REPORT APPEARS TO US TO  
BE OBVIOUS PLANT. IT IS WRITTEN IN A SOPHISTICATED,  
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HIGHLY LITERATE STYLE WITH FREE USE OF LEGAL TERMINOLOGY.

IT PURPORTS TO REVIEW ATTITUDE OF "VESCO GROUP" TOWARD ANY FUTURE EXTRADITION ATTEMPT BY USG, WHICH IT SAYS GROUP IS CONFIDENT WILL BE DEFEATED WHETHER OR NOT EXTRADITION LAW IS CHANGED.

3. REPORT SAYS VESCO GROUP IS PREPARING AN INTERNATIONAL PRESS CAMPAIGN AND A LEGAL ATTACK IN THE UNITED STATES (WITHOUT PERSONAL APPEARANCE) ON THE LACK OF VALIDITY OF THE LAST INDICTMENT. "THEY ARE ALSO CONSIDERING THE POSSIBILITY OF AT LEAST ONE OF THE GROUP VOLUNTARY (SIC) TO RETURN TO THE UNITED STATES TO CHALLENGE THE INDICTMENT AND OTHER MATTERS AT A PUBLIC TRIAL."

4. REPORT ALSO SAYS "ALL MEMBERS OF THE GROUP HAVE HAD DISCUSSIONS WITH THE U.S. AUTHORITIES ABOUT MAKING A 'DEAL' TO RETURN TO THE U.S. BUT THESE HAVE ALL BEEN DIRECTED BY VESCO FOR THE SOLE PURPOSE OF OBTAINING INFORMATION."

5. REPORT CONCLUDES WITH FOLLOWING PARAGRAPHS:

"15. AS A RESULT OF PUTTING TOGETHER ODDS AND ENDS FROM VARIOUS CONTACTS IT WOULD APPEAR THAT VESCO WOULD ONLY MAKE A DEAL WITH THE U.S. ON THE FOLLOWING BASIS:

"A) IF ALL THE REST OF THE GROUP AGREED."

"B) IF IT DID NOT INVOLVE HIS MOVING FROM COSTA RICA."

"C) IF ANY TESTIMONY HE WOULD HAVE TO GIVE WAS LIMITED TO THE NIXON CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTIONS (THE PUBLISHED REPORTS TALK ABOUT \$250,000 BUT APPARENTLY IT WAS REALLY \$500,000)."

"D) IF ALL CHARGES ARE SETTLED AS IN THE "TURNER CASE" (IT TOOK A WHILE TO FIND OUT WHAT THIS MEANT, HOWEVER, IT IS OUTLINED IN THE ATTACHED ARTICLE THAT APPEARED ON SEPT 18, 1975 IN THE MIAMI HERALD. THERE WERE MORE CHARGES IN THAT CASE OF THE SAME NATURE AND WITH THAT PRECEDENT IT IS A REASONABLE APPROACH ESPECIALLY IN VIEW OF THE CIRCUMSTANCES)."

"16. SINCE VESCO WILL NOT LEAVE COSTA RICA VOLUNTARILY AND ANY OTHER ATTEMPT OF EXTRADITION OR OTHERWISE COULD CAUSE IRREPARABLE HARM AND COMMOTION IN COSTA RICA AGAINST THE U.S. IT IS CLEAR THAT THAT SITUATION CANNOT BE ALLOWED TO BECOME MORE CANCEROUS. ATTEMPTS SHOULD BE MADE TO HAVE VESCO AND THE U.S. CONFIDENTIAL

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REACH SOME KIND OF AN ARRANGEMENT. IF THIS CANNOT BE DONE PROMPTLY, THEN THE EXECUTIVE SHOULD FORMALLY TAKE AN ADVERSE POSITION WITH THE U.S. OVER THE WHOLE "VESCO" AFFAIR."

6. COMMENT: IF THERE WAS ANY QUESTION BEFORE THAT WILKINS' DECLARATION IN JAIL HAD BEEN CIRCULATED, THAT QUESTION HAS BEEN ANSWERED. WHEN ASKED ON JUNE 28 WHETHER

"EXCELSIOR" HAS THE DECLARATION AS INDICATED BY ITS SERIES ON WILKINS, CHARPENTIER SHEEPISHLY REPLIED THAT AT THEIR REQUEST HE HAD GIVEN IT TO VESCO'S LAWYERS ON INSTRUCTIONS OF THE PRESIDENT WHO SAID IT WAS A "JUDICIAL DOCUMENT." CHARPENTIER SAID HE WAS INSTRUCTED AT SAME TIME TO SEND COPY TO EMBASSY, BUT IT HAS NOT YET ARRIVED.

7. WITH RESPECT TO WILKINS'S ALLEGED REPORT, IT SEEMS OBVIOUSLY TO HAVE BEEN WRITTEN FOR WILKINS RATHER THAN BY HIM, AND TO BE INTENDED AT LEAST IN PART TO SET FORTH VESCO'S CONDITIONS FOR A DEAL WITH USG. EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE KNOWING WHETHER SUCH A REPORT WAS EVER RECEIVED BY U.S. ATTORNEY.

8. COPIES OF DECLARATION AND REPORT HAVE BEEN POUCHED TO CEN.  
TODMAN UNQUOTE  
ROBINSON

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
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**Concepts:** DOCUMENTS, ARRESTS, ALLEGATIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 06 JUL 1976  
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